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City to unlock tomorrow

Places of worship, malls, hotels to be thrown open to people after 75 days

Mysuru, June 7 (RK,MTY & BCT)- Monday, June 8, will almost bring an end to the stringent restrictions imposed by the Centre to control the spread of Coronavirus disease. After the Centre's recent order, malls, restaurants and religious places are set to re-open tomorrow after a gap of 75 days.

On March 24, 2020, the Government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi ordered a nationwide lockdown for 21 days that was subsequently extended and gradually relaxed. The Centre on May 30 said that 'Unlock 1.0' will be initiated from June 8 under which the lockdown would be relaxed to a great extent.

Tomorrow's re-opening will be the biggest push to restoring normalcy after lockdown and will be a boost to bring the economy back on track. The re-opening will be with strict adherence to guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on social distancing norms, public safety and health. Separate SOPs have been issued to hotels, places of worship, malls and hotels.

Gearing up to open first in the morning are the temples. Temples and shrines are being decked up and sanitised in the run to open the gates for devotees by strictly adhering to the guidelines.

The Department of Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Muzrai) in an announcement along with a circular said, only "darshan" will be allowed at A, B and C category temples that come under it, and has banned all kinds of temple fairs and "sevas" or special pujas temporarily until further orders. There will be no distribution of 'Theertha Prasadam' and no Dasoha (free food).

(See UNLOCK on page 6)

Zoo roaring to open on Monday

Mysore Palace will also open with 5-day week, 10 am - 5 pm rule; No illumination, no Sound & Light Show

Mysuru, June 7 (MTY&BCT)- The Karnataka Government has allowed all State Zoos to open from June 8 (Monday) provided all precautions are taken. Like other public places, sanitisation and taking necessary precautions have been mandated.

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens (Mysuru Zoo) had announced earlier that they will start operations as soon as the Government gives its green signal. They had informed that only limited people will be allowed, routes of visitors will be closely monitored and the number of people visiting will be restricted.

In a circular, the Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) stated that Zoos have been asked to allow a particular number of visitors, taking into cognisance the infrastructure, space, facility and manpower to ensure physical distancing at all times. Accordingly, arrangements have to be made for staggered entry of visitors for the day, the circular reads.

The ZAK's 28-page 'Standard Operating Guidelines on Reopening Post-COVID-19 Lockdown' will be followed when the gates are open.

Some of the guidelines include all the visitors and staff shall wear a face mask at all times and all safari vehicles should have an occupancy of not more than 50 percent of the total space available to ensure physical distancing.

Safe distance between visitors required to ensure social distance is 6 feet (2 metres). So, the number of visitors, who can be safely accommodated at any given point of time, is 3,100 inside the Zoo. Safely, 166 visitors per 10 minutes and 8,000 visitors per day can be allowed, the guidelines say.

This morning, the Zoo has been completely cleaned and all the surfaces where the people will come into contact have been sanitised. Workers have washed the animal cages, railings and barricade surfaces and metal and wooden railings. "We are ready to host over 8,000 visitors per day with all the guidelines adhered to. But in the starting days from tomorrow we may get about 1,000 visitors a day," said Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni.

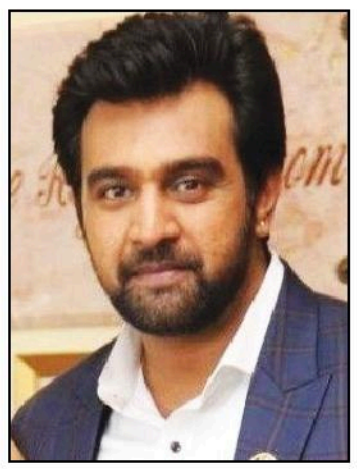
(See PALACE on page 2)

Actor Chiranjeevi Sarja no more

Bengaluru, June 7- In a shocking development, young Kannada actor Chiranjeevi Sarja died this afternoon. He was rushed to Sagar Apollo Hospital in Bengaluru after he complained of breathing problems. His fans are shocked mourning his death.

Chiranjeevi Sarja is one of the most cheerful and talented actors and he was healthy with chiselled physic. He was reportedly having lunch with his family members this afternoon when he faced breathing problems. He was immediately rushed to Sagar Apollo Hospital. The 33-year-old actor reportedly breathed his last while undergoing treatment at the hospital.

He is the brother of actor Dhruva Sarja, nephew of actor Arjun Sarja and grandson of



veteran Kannada actor Shakti Prasad. Out of his 19 movies in lead roles, 14 movies are remakes. He made his debut in the Kannada movie 'Vayuputra' (2009) in the lead role. In October 2017, he was engaged to actress Meghana Raj. They married on May 2, 2018.

'Ranga Honnaru' at Rangayana: CCF rues damage to Mysuru environment

Wildlife photographer Krupakar seen launching the documentary on Bahuroopi-2020 National Theatre Festival at Rangayana on Friday as Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, CCF T. Heeralal, DCFs Alexander, Dr. K.C. Prashanth Kumar and Sridhar, Rangayana Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy and others look on.

Mysuru, June 7 (YDS&KS)- The environment of Mysuru, one of the beautiful cities in the world, is getting damaged, regretted Chief Conservator of Forests (CCF) - Mysuru Division, T. Heeralal.

He was speaking at the 'Ranga Honnaru' programme organised as part of World Environment Day celebration at Rangayana on Friday. Heeralal said that Mysuru is considered as the 4th beautiful city in the world which is a result of well-maintained parks and gardens by various organisations and well-grown trees of different species and expressed concern that looking at the present climatic changes, there are chances of damages to the environment.

Continuing, Heeralal said that there is a population of 14 lakh people and 8.5 lakh vehicles and if these vehicle run for even a kilometre a day, 1,700 tonne of carbon dioxide would be mixed with the environment. Everyday 472 metric tonnes of garbage including 22 tonnes of plastic waste is generated which should be controlled by Mysureans, he suggested.

Pointing out that the attempts to clean River Ganga through Ganga Action Plan since 1986 had not yielded results, Heeralal said that the two-and-a-half month's lockdown has cleansed the Ganga and Cauvery besides reducing forest fire incidents. Coronavirus may be a pandemic to human beings but has been a boon to the environment, he opined.

30 mega projects inside forest area regrettable — Krupakar: Speaking after launching the documentary on Bahuroopi-2020, Wildlife photographer Krupakar regretted the approval given by the Government for 30 mega projects inside core forest areas. He said that the Government on one side was giving a call for the protection and conservation of forests and wildlife through Project Tiger and other projects by spending crores of rupees and at the same time, it has given approval for highway construction in Tiger Reserve Forest area.

Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, who also spoke, said that everyone were living with Coronavirus anxiety and the solution for it is clean and good environment as nature is the best medicine to fight the pandemic. And as a first step towards it, saplings were planted at Rangayana premises.

Continuing, Cariappa said that Rangayana has been creating wonders since 30 years and the steps towards these achievements have not been documented and hence, it has been decided to conduct training and rehearsals of many important plays and document them. As a first step, the documentary film of Bahuroopi-2020 was launched, he added.

Deputy Conservators of Forest (DCFs) Alexander, Dr. K.C. Prashanth Kumar and Sridhar, Rangayana Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy and others were present at the programme.

Mysore Palace to open tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

Mysore Palace too will open to visitors from tomorrow along with a lot of restrictions in place. The Palace will open for only five days a week and will be closed for tourists on Saturday and Sunday and additionally on Government holidays. Only 350 persons will be allowed inside from 10 am to 5 pm and per day, only 3,500 visitors will be permitted inside, Palace Board Deputy Director T.S. Subramanya told 'Star of Mysore' this morning.

Social distancing boxes have been drawn in front of ticket counters and all the entry gates are already sporting the boxes where the tourists will stand before entering the Palace premises. "Loudspeaker announcements will be made both in Kannada and English at all entrance gates and people will not be allowed to bring their luggage inside," Subramanya added.

Apart from sanitising hands and preventing people from entering the Palace without masks, the Palace Board will sanitise mobile phones too as there are chances of mobile phones exchanging hands inside the Palace when people request others to take photos. "Till the end of June, there will be no illumination of the Palace and there will be no Sound and Light Show," Subramanya said.

JSS AHER introduces
B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Medical Genetics and Genomics

Mysuru, June 7- The quest to understand the genetic basis of human health has given rise to the field of Medical Genetics that has vast practical applications from the use of its results in the legal battle like paternity testing to the discovery of new therapies for genetic diseases.

The rare genetic disorders though not treatable, early diagnosis will help to improve the quality of life and extend the life span. Genetic variations are responsible for many human diseases and understanding the contribution made by these genes for the development of diseases like cancer, diabetes, heart disease, etc., is quite fascinating and has led to the development of novel treatment modalities.

Scientists have proved that genetics plays an important role in an individual's immune response, affecting their ability to fight diseases. This has opened doors for a new field called Immunogenetics. A more current example that one can quote is regarding the prevailing situation of COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus where few individuals recover completely while others succumb to the infection. The fact that a few countries have reported lower mortalities may be attributed to the immune status of the population which in turn has a genetic basis.

Novel technologies like next-generation sequencing have dramatically accelerated the pace of biological research. Precision medicine is a new frontier for healthcare combining genomics, big data analytics and population health. We may expect to look forward to some amazing developments shortly, wherein we carry an identity card that includes our genome characteristics, rather than the format we are currently using. Hospitals and Physicians may use this data to identify the person at risk of developing a particular condition much before the actual symptoms are seen and also prescribe drugs tailored for that individual.

With this boost in knowledge and technology, there is a high demand for trained individuals who can cater to societal needs. The JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) through the Department of Medical Genetics has initiated programmes like B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Medical Genetics and Genomics to train and provide skillful personnel in this field who would be ready to take up further challenges in this area. The programmes have been designed with industry experts and incorporating industry internships.

For details log on to the JSS AHER website (www.jssuni.edu.in) or contact Dr. Akila Prashant at: akilaprashant@jssuni.edu.in and Abhinay on Mob: 99808-41859, according to a press release.

Nirani Sugars wins Pandavapura
Sugar Factory lease tender: To pay Rs.405 crore to Govt. for 40-year lease

Mandya, June 7 (Nagaiah & DM)- Bagalkot District-based Nirani Sugars, owned by current BJP MLA from Bilgi and former Minister Murugesh Nirani, has bagged the lease bid for taking control of the decades-old Pandavapura Sahakara Sakkare Kharkhane Niyamita (PSSKL), popularly known as Pandavapura Sugar Factory located at Pandavapura in Mandya District.

The Sugar Factory, which is considered as the lifeline for thousands of farmers of Mandya district, was established under the Co-operative sector decades ago and had earned the distinction of being the only Co-operative Sugar Factory in the State. But with the passage of time, the Factory ran into losses and as a result, it shut down over fifteen years ago.

In 2006, the then JD(S)-BJP coalition Government headed by H.D. Kumaraswamy, in a bid to save the Factory, leased it out to Kothari Sugars. But the factory ran into trouble again and was shut after three years. In 2010, the then BJP Govt. headed by CM B.S. Yediyurappa handed it over to the prestigious State-run Mysugar Factory at Mandya and announced a Rs.50 crore special grant for the revival of the Factory. But the Factory continued to incur huge losses, following which it was again shut down three years later.

In 2014, the Pandavapura Sugar Factory returned to the Co-operative Sector. But it ran into debt trap yet again and subsequently was closed three years later in 2017. Thereafter at a Share-holders meeting held in Jan.2019, it was decided to privatise the Factory and subsequently the Government invited tenders for running the Factory on lease. All the tenders received within the set deadline were opened on June 5, 2020 in the presence of Mandya DC Dr. M.V. Venkatesh and other top officials and Nirani Sugars bagged the tender by quoting the highest price among bidders, to run the factory on lease for a 40-year period.

As per the tender conditions, Nirani Sugars has to pay Rs.405 crore to the Government and also set up a power co-generation plant of 20 MW capacity and establish a distillery unit with a capacity to manufacture 60,000 litres of ethanol per day. The other conditions include augmentation of the existing sugar production capacity of the Factory.

DC Dr. Venkatesh said that the successful bidder Nirani Sugars has been asked to start operations from this year itself.

Meanwhile, Murugesh Nirani said that he will make honest efforts to serve the farmers of the region by running the factory in a thoroughly professional manner and sought the co-operation of the farming community & all others.

VOICE OF THE READER

Use side-view mirrors while riding

Sir,

Having side-view mirrors on both sides of a two-wheeler or four-wheeler is essential to know the vehicles coming behind. It is also imperative to look into these mirrors before changing the lane, taking either right turn or left turn. It is also useful to move the two-wheeler to a safe place when a speeding vehicle coming from behind is noticed in these mirrors.

However, many riders and drivers are ignoring it. Several vehicles do not have both the mirrors, and some have only the right side mirror. The riders covering the side-view mirrors by keeping the helmet over it rather than wearing on their head, and in some cars, drivers do not open the side mirrors is being noticed many times even in our city.

According to the MV Act Section 177, it is mandatory to have side-view mirrors and a fine of Rs. 500 can be charged, if it is missing. Cyberabad Police have issued 1.5 lakh challans for two-wheeler owners during the last year alone for such violations, indicating the negligence of the drivers not to have side-view mirrors. During the previous year, 178 two-wheeler riders died in Hyderabad city alone as they have not noticed the approaching vehicle from behind and took a turn leading to accidents, in which a majority could have been avoided had the riders used the side-view mirrors.

Hence, it is advised to have side-view mirrors on the vehicles and use them while on the move and not to block or bend it to avoid any mishap.

— Dr. S.V.N. Vijayendra,
Traffic Warden & Member,
City Traffic Advisory Committee

Mysuru
5.6.2020

Scattered heavy rainfall lash parts of city

- Coconut tree brings down five electric poles; power lines snapped
- 50 percent more rainfall forecast this year

Mysuru, June 7 (MK,RKB& KS)- As per the predictions from the Meteorological Department, scattered heavy rainfall lashed parts of the city for more than one-and-a-half hours yesterday.

The rains, which commenced from 3 pm, continued to lash till about 5 pm causing rain water to flow on the roads like rivers at Kanakagiri, Chamundipuram, Gundu Rao Nagar, Bhyraweshwara Nagar, Bamboo Bazaar, Bannimantap Industrial Areas and surrounding places.

Motorists, especially two-wheeler riders, who were caught in the rains, had to take shelter in bus stops, petrol bunks, under-construction buildings and other places till the rain reduced or stopped.

Electric poles damaged

Following heavy rains, a coconut tree on Yele Thotha - JSS College Road fell on a power cable resulting in damage to five electric poles and snapping of power lines.

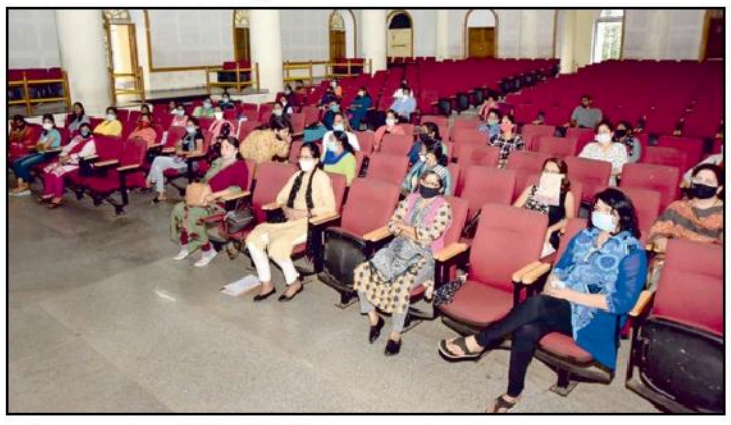
CESC N.R. Mohalla Division Executive Engineer B.K. Yogesh, speaking to 'SOM' said that power supply was immediately stopped and the CESC staff rushed to the spot, removed the fallen poles and cleared the snapped electric cables.

MCC Health Officer Dr. Jayanth, speaking to 'SOM' this morning said that the MCC's Abhaya-1 team had cleared the fallen coconut tree and CESC staff had replaced the damaged electric poles and works were on to restore power supply.

He further said that a few drains that overflowed yesterday would be repaired for which tenders would be called soon.

More rainfall this time: Dr. Govindaraju of Organic Farming and Research Centre at Naganahalli said that pre-monsoon rains has been more in the months of March, April and May since 10 years and there would be 50 per cent more rains this year. There would be continuous rains from Monday onwards, he added.

MCC, Health Dept. conduct workshop for Beauticians



Mysuru, June 7 (SBD&KS)- In a bid to provide suggestions and guidelines to beauticians, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and the Health Department conducted a workshop at the Town Hall here yesterday.

More than 60 beauticians participated. The MCC and the Health Department officials asked the beauticians to collect the address, mobile phone numbers and other details of every customer visiting their beauty parlour.

The beauticians were also told to compulsorily wear face masks, hand gloves, use sanitiser and arrange the seating for customers in such a way so that the customers could maintain social distancing. The officials also told the beauticians to strictly follow all rules and regulations issued by the Government. MCC Health Officer Dr. Nagaraj, Health Department officials Dr. Sudheer and Prakash provided all necessary information to the beauticians. Workshop for hair-dressing professionals would be held on Monday or Tuesday, according to MCC officials.

Former CM Devaraj Urs remembered

Mysuru, June 7 (PM&KS)- Tributes were paid to former Chief Minister D. Devaraj Urs on his death anniversary at a programme organised at Congress Bhavan near City Railway Station here yesterday. Speaking after offering floral tributes to the portrait of the late CM, former MLA M.K. Somashekar said that Devaraj Urs was the voice of the backward class and the oppressed, who fought for the eradication of poverty and bonded labour system. Urs is also remembered for the development works when in power.

Somashekar further said that the former CM was known for his administrative skills, backward classes welfare programmes, instrumental in making the 'tiller the owner of the land' during his tenure as Chief Minister and introducing 20- point programme in the State.

Devaraj Urs brought reservation for the Backward Classes because of his commitment to their uplift, he added.

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) Women's Wing President Dr. Pushpa Amarnath, former MyLAC Chairman H.A. Venkatesh and others were present.

Pages from History

By Prof. A.V. Narasimha Murthy
former Head, Department of Ancient History & Archaeology, University of Mysore

Homage to Unwin of Kannada: Prof. H. M. Shankaranarayana Rao

When I was browsing through some literature on Prof. H. M. Shankaranarayana Rao, a write-up in Kannada with the title 'Unwin of Kannada' written by M. Satyanarayana Rao of Geetha Book House-fame, attracted my attention. A great Publisher can understand and appreciate another equally great Publisher more intimately.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with Unwin, I may add that Sir Stanley Unwin of England was one of the Publishers known all over the world for publishing books of everlasting value written by distinguished authors. For want of a better title, I simply copied that title to pay homage to Prof. H. M. Shankaranarayana Rao, the architect of Sharada Mandira, a Kannada Publishing House which has made Mysuru City proud.

Though he was elder to me by two decades, I had the privilege of knowing him fairly intimately. Placing Prof. Shankaranarayana Rao on the same pedestal occupied by Unwin is perhaps the best tribute to Prof. Rao.

Prof. Shankaranarayana Rao (1913-1997) was born at Harihara, a place of great antiquity sanctified by Harihareswara temple built by the Hoysalas eight hundred years ago. Shankaranarayana is another name for Harihara, a composite deity which establishes the identity of Siva and Vishnu, a wonderful concept. Instead of continuing as the priest of this temple, Shankaranarayana Rao chose to get modern College education. Any other person would not have even dreamt of College education when poverty was staring at him. But the young Rao had a dream of his own.

Prof. H. M. Shankaranarayana Rao [1913-1997]

Sir Stanley Unwin [1884 – 1968]

Weekly meals

In those days, the concept of weekly meals was very popular among poor students. Weekly meals did not mean taking food once in a week but eating each day at a different house in turn with the consent of the owner of the house. In fact most of the distinguished persons have grown under this umbrella of weekly meals.

Shankaranarayana Rao had arranged for weekly meals for all the seven days of the week. He joined the Maharaja's College and automatically got 50% exemption from the payment of the tuition fee. But Rao could not afford to pay the remaining 50%. He met Principal Prof. J.C. Rollo (Englishman) and told him that he is poor and surviving on weekly meals. Prof. Rollo understood this as eating once a week and asked the College Manager if this is true and the latter replied 'Yes, Sir.' And Prof. Rollo granted Rao exemption from the payment of the remaining 50% of the College fee. This enabled Shankaranarayana Rao to prosecute his College education. This incident sounds like a fairy tale to the students of the present generation.

Shankaranarayana Rao had the good fortune of getting a Master's degree in Kannada literature under the luminaries like B.M.Sri, Ti.Nam.Sri, T. S. Venkannaiah, A. R. Krishnasastry, DLN, M. H. Krishna, Srikantha Sastri, Rallapalli, M. Hiriyanna and others. His friends like Paramesvara Bhatta and K. Venkataramappa gave him good company. After some initial struggle, Shankaranarayana Rao joined the Sarada Vilas College as a lecturer in Kannada, became a Professor and finally emerged as the Principal of that College. During his leadership, Sarada Vilas College attained name and fame as a great centre of education and became popular. Shankaranarayana Rao paid great tribute to the management of this College by saying: 'This is perhaps the only College where the Principal and the staff are allowed to work without any interference from the Management.'

Man of innovations

Prof. Shankaranarayana Rao was a man of innovations. His creative mind always aspired for new things to help the society. Once he wrote a long essay in Kannada and wanted to get it published. Instead of going and waiting at the doors of the Publishers, he thought of starting a Publishing House of his own and serve Kannada.

At the suggestion of Ti.Nam. Sri, it came to be called 'Sharada Mandira' (House of Goddess Sharada, the presiding deity of Knowledge). From that day onwards neither Sharada Mandira nor Shankaranarayana Rao looked back and Rao became a Kannada Publisher.

In the beginning, he published his own books and began approaching other authors who came in search of Shankaranarayana Rao with a request to publish their books. Rao has published over four hundred titles of great authors including A.R. Krishna Sastry, Veesi, Gorur, Ti.Nam.Sri, DLN, K. Venkataramappa, Pu.Thi.Na, Murthy Rao, Krishnamurthy, Ashwattha, Tarasu etc. Thus practically all illustrious writers of that period have found a place in Sharada Mandira. This is not a mean achievement.

Scholarly monograph on Harihareswara temple

Prof. Shankaranarayana Rao enriched Kannada literature by publishing his own 25 books. As a student of History and Epigraphy, I have always admired his scholarly monograph on Harihareswara temple at Harihara. I had suggested to him to get it translated into English so that non-Kannadigas would be benefitted by it.

Another virtue which has endeared Prof. Rao to the Authors and Publishers is the way he respected the authors. He believed that an author is the focal point of the literary world and hence he should be respected and rewarded properly. He started the practice of giving royalty to authors in a single lumpsum. In addition he has helped many authors by giving financial help in times of needs such as marriage, buying a site or completing a house etc. This showed his concern for the authors who were the backbone of the Publishing industry.

In this connection I may quote what Prof. Rao told me once. 'I very much desire to give you royalty; please give me a manuscript.' Unfortunately, I could not do it and the loss is mine.

Prof. H. M. Shankaranarayana Rao was not merely a great Publisher but a great scholar in Kannada. He has written more than 25books in Kannada including independent works and edited old classics. Fortunately, many of his works became text books and the students were the real beneficiaries. His beautiful Kannada handwriting has been admired by his contemporary scholars. Some twenty years ago, I received a beautifully written post card from him.

It seems he was reading Ranna and at one place, he saw a phrase 'posa-pon' meaning new gold and it did not suit the context. In my book on coins of Karnataka, I had indicated that 'pon' is a gold coin and this meaning suited his context, as newly minted gold coins. He congratulated me for this interpretation.

I used to meet Rao occasionally in the evenings at the first floor of the famous Geetha Book House at K. R. Circle. Though it was a small place surrounded by books on all sides, it was made a pleasant place by the brothers Satyanarayana Rao, Gururaja Rao and Gopalakrishna. Prof. Rao, Venkataramappa, HSK, H.M. Nayak used to be there with pleasant conversation on literature, men and matters laced with generous comments without malice to anybody. Light eatables were always there. I was the youngest of the lot and the horizon of my knowledge was broadened greatly. Alas! Such meetings are not held nowadays either in Colleges or in homes or when friends meet. Now it has passed into the pages of history.

In the meantime, it is our duty to salute and pay homage to Shankaranarayana Rao who has made Mysuru city proud by his Publishing House Sharada Mandira.

Tipu Tomb to open only after June 15

Mysuru, June 7 (KS)- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has issued instructions to open Tipu Tomb (Gumbaz-e-Shahi), Masjid-e-Aqsa and Masjid-e-Aala at Srirangapatna after June 15, according to Irfan Pasha, Secretary of Tipu Wakf Estate, Srirangapatna.

SSLC Exams Helpline

Mysuru, June 7- The Office of the Mysuru Rural Block Education Officer (BEO) has started SSLC Exams Helpline for June-July, 2020. Those having any queries or grievances related to SSLC Exams may contact Mob: 89715-44137 (K.P. Shashiraju, Block Resource Person-BRP) and 90082-67574 (Kumaraswamy, Educational Co-ordinators-ECO), according to Mysuru Taluk BEO.

KSOU to launch online coaching for competitive exams

Mysuru, June 7- Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) Competitive Exams Training Centre will be launching online classes on June 9 at 11 am.

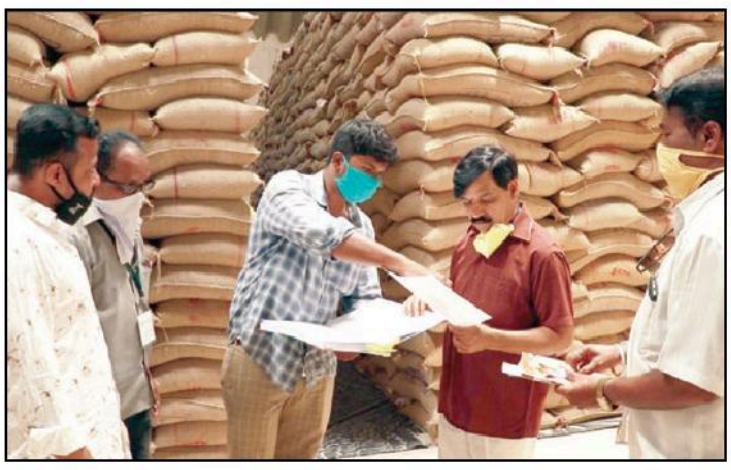
Senior IAS Officer D. Roopa Moudgil will launch the classes online from Bengaluru. KSOU Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof. S. Vidyashankar will preside. Addl. Regional Commissioner K.M. Gayathri will be the chief guest. KSOU Registrar Prof. Lingaraj Gandhi will take part, according to a press release from the Centre Co-ordinator Jainahalli Satyanarayana Gowda.

Animal adoption continues at City Zoo

Mysuru, June 7- The following persons have adopted the animals of Mysuru Zoo under 'Adoption of Animals' scheme by paying the adoption fee: M.P. Sheethal, Mysuru - Indian Leopard - Rs.35,000; H.N. Ashalatha, Bengaluru - Indian Cobra and Common Barn Owl - Rs. 5,500; Rachana Supreeth Urs, Mysuru - Peacock - Rs. 3,500; B. Parthasarathi, Mysuru - Indian Cobra - Rs. 2,000; Suma Basavaraju, Mysuru - Malabar Giant Squirrel - Rs. 10,000; Usha Chethan Krishna, Bengaluru - Ring Tailed Lemur - Rs.5,101; Deepa Nataraj, Mysuru - Star Tortoise - Rs. 2,000; Ravikiran Puttaraju and S. Vasantha Kumari, Mysuru - Leopard Cat - Rs. 5,000; Kalpana Dilip Shah, Bengaluru - Spotted Deer - Rs. 7,500; T.A. Smaran, Mysuru - Great Hornbill - Rs. 5,000; K.S. Narasimhamurthy, Mysuru - Smooth Coated Otter - Rs. 5,000; M. Kumar Kashyap, Mysuru - Common Ostrich - Rs. 5,000, according to Zoo.

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana

Probe ordered into alleged black marketing of ration rice: MLA



Mysuru, June 7- K.R. MLA S.A. Ramdas said that the Government has ordered a probe into the alleged black marketing of ration rice supplied by the Centre for distribution among the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.

Alleging that there is a big racket operating in Mysuru which is engaged in siphoning off ration articles such as rice and dal, Ramdas said that the Government has tasked the Food and Civil Supplies Department Principal Secretary to probe the alleged scam.

Pointing out that he has written to the Food and Civil Supplies Minister K. Gopalaiah asking to order a probe and take action against all those found guilty, Ramdas maintained that the Government has responded to his plea by ordering a probe.

Alleging that CCTV Cameras have not been installed in all food godowns and details of vehicles entering and leaving godowns too are not entered in the register, Ramdas alleged that thousands of bags of rice are being clandestinely despatched every month for polishing at Mandya, from where it is despatched to Kerala.

Pointing out that only the Department-listed lorries are permitted to transport ration articles such as rice, dal and wheat, he alleged that 350 quintals of rice meant for a Fair Price Shop has been illegally transported in an unauthorised lorry (KA-41/4941) from the Department godown at Bamboo Bazar.

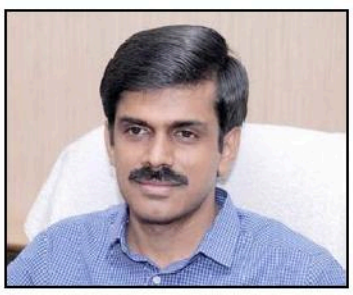
Continuing, Ramdas said that he sensed black marketing of ration articles as ration rice was found in the rice given by donors meant for distribution among the poor and needy during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Stating that he went to a godown near the APMC Market on Nanjangud Road recently for an inspection when he noticed that a lorry (KA-37/9479) was about to leave the godown with 300 bags of rice, Ramdas said he alerted the Mandi Police, who rushed to the spot and seized the lorry. In another such instance about 15 days ago, Nanjangud Police have seized a lorry that was illegally transporting ration rice to Kerala, he said and added that there were many such cases where ration articles were illegally transported and sold in black market.

Welcoming the probe ordered by the Government, Ramdas urged the Food and Civil Supplies Minister to take stern action against corrupt Department officials and black marketeers.

DC asks citizens suffering from fever and cold to undergo COVID-19 test

Mysuru, June 7 (MTY&DM)- With COVID-19 positive cases rising elsewhere in the State, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abhiram G. Sankar has asked residents of the city and district to undergo COVID-19 test if they are suffering from fever and cold.



Abhiram G. Sankar

Speaking to presspersons here yesterday, Abhiram Sankar said that persons who are suffering from fever and cold, which are symptoms of Novel Coronavirus, are being asked to compulsorily undergo COVID-19 test at Taluk Hospitals, where throat swab and blood samples are collected.

Pointing out that as per the new State Government guidelines, persons arriving from the hotspot State of Maharashtra are only being sent for Institutional Quarantine, while those from other States are sent for Home Quarantine, the DC said that Mysuru district reported 9 fresh cases over the past one week, with seven of them linked to Maharashtra.

Noting that earlier all the 90 COVID-19 positive patients were cured and discharged from the designated Hospital on KRS road last month, he said that out of the 9 new cases, three have been cured while the rest six are undergoing treatment at COVID-19 hospital. He pointed out that with throat swab testing labs having been set up in all districts now, Mysuru Lab is getting fewer samples for testing and only around 400 samples are being tested every day.

Reiterating that Labs have been set up in all Taluk Hospitals of the District, Abhiram Sankar said that testing is done for free and everyone arriving in the district from Maharashtra is being medically examined and tested for COVID-19.

He further said that 400 persons from Maharashtra had registered for coming to the city, out of whom 200 have arrived so far.

Rs.50,000 donated to Zoo

Housing Board, MCDCC Bank and Railway Co-operative Bank Director Dr. M.B Manjegowda (extreme right) donated Rs.50,000 towards the maintenance of animals at Mysuru Zoo in view of COVID-19. The cheque was handed over to District Minister S.T. Somashekar in the presence of MLC Sandesh Nagaraj recently.

CM directs officials to fill up vacant Pourakarmika posts in Local Bodies

Regularise services of over 40,000 civic workers, says Pourakarmika Sangha State President

Bengaluru, June 7 (KMS & DM)- Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa on Friday directed officials to fill up Pourakarmika posts lying vacant in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of the State.

Speaking at a progress review meeting of Urban Development Department at his home office 'Krishnaa' here, Yediyurappa asked the officials to submit a proposal for filling up Pourakarmika posts that has been lying vacant for reasons like retirement or death of regular Pourakarmikas and such others.

Pointing out that it is vital to appoint Pourakarmikas in local bodies for maintaining hygiene and cleanliness in cities and towns, he directed the officials to release Rs. 209 crores under Centrally-funded AMRUT Scheme, as it would help the State to seek the Centre's share.

Stressing on the need for ensuring that there is no drinking water problems in urban areas, the CM said that a total of Rs .47.24 crores is available with the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) for addressing drinking water issues and water was supplied in 12 cities across the State in private tankers till the end of April.

Long-pending demand not met by CM

Meanwhile, Karnataka State Pourakarmika Sangha State President S. Narayana, who is also a former Mayor of Mysuru, said that the CM's announcement is not of much help for the Pourakarmikas as the Sangha has been demanding regularisation of services of thousands of outsourced Pourakarmikas in the State.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* yesterday, Narayana said that Chief Minister Yediyurappa has directed the officials to fill up only vacant posts. But the long-pending demand of regularisation of services of Pourakarmikas has not been met and the CM's direction will hardly benefit one percent of civic workers.

Reminding the CM that as the Opposition Leader earlier, he had promised to fulfil the demands of civic workers within 24 hours of coming to power, he urged the CM to regularise the services of over 40,000 Pourakarmikas serving in ULBs across the State, including 1,200 in Mysuru City Corporation (MCC).

Maintaining that the recruitment of vacant Pourakarmika posts is a routine exercise and there is nothing new in it, he urged the Government to fulfil the other pending demands of civic workers and thus come to their rescue.

Woman goes missing from Saragur

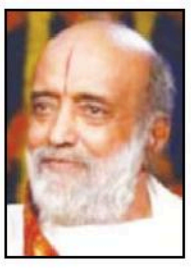
Mysuru, June 7 (KS)- A 27-year-old woman, who left her home on May 19 saying that she was going to work, has since gone missing.

The missing woman is Devammanni, wife of Chikkanayaka and a resident of Itna village in Saragur taluk.

Those having any information about the missing woman may contact Ph: 08222-252044, District Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2444800 or Mob: 94808-05064.

Obituary

Karagam M.S. Yoganarasimhan

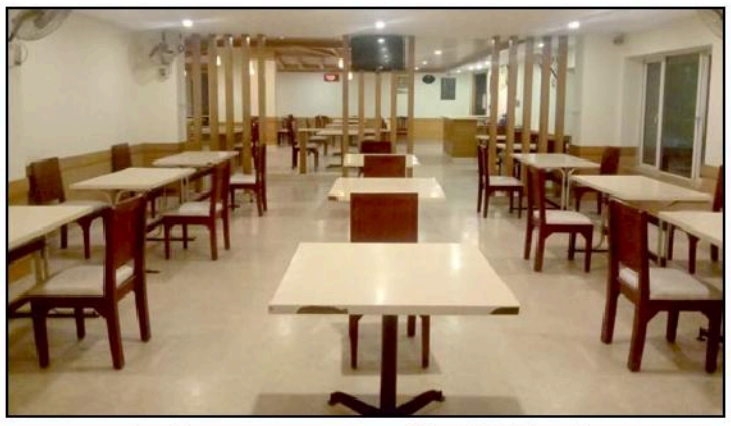


Mysuru, June 7- Karagam M.S. Yoganarasimhan (72), first Sthanika of Sri Cheluvanarayanaswamy Temple at Melukote and Manager of Sri Lakshmi Narasimhaswamy Temple of Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt, Mysuru Branch, passed away at a private hospital in city on Saturday morning.

Last rites were performed at his native place Melukote.

City to unlock tomorrow

Social distance boxes in front of Kote Anjaneyaswamy temple.



Seating arrangements at Hotel Siddhartha.

Cleaning inside the Chamundeshwari temple atop the Hill.

(Continued from page 1)

The Department has advised those visiting temples not to touch walls, pillars, statues, chariots among other things there. Arrangements have been made at several temples in Mysuru to receive a steady stream of devotees at Sri Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill, Uthanahalli Sri Tripurasundari Jwalamukhi Temple, all temples in Mysore Palace premises and Srikanteshwara Swamy Temple in Nanjangud.

Key arrangements

Though the temples are holding daily pujas and rituals, they were not open to the public till now, with COVID-19-induced lockdown restrictions in place. As the guidelines have called for maintaining cleanliness at temple premises and entrance, arrangements have been made at temples to check body temperature of the devotees with infrared thermometer or thermal scanners.

The entire temple premises have been sanitised and barricades have been cleaned and sanitised at Chamundeshwari Temple. As the guidelines have mandated social distancing of 6 feet marks have been made at temples for devotees to stand in queue as per the requirement at each temple. Those without face cover or masks will not be let in.

Devotees will be asked to leave their footwear in their vehicle or at a separate place, and will not be allowed in temple premises, said the temple authorities. All the temple priests and over 250 staff have been checked for their health by Health Department and those priests who are above 60 years of age have been advised to take a break for two months.

"Touching of statues/idols/ holy books etc., will not to be allowed. In view of the potential threat of spread of infection, as far as feasible, recorded devotional music/songs may be played and choir or singing groups should not be allowed," the guidelines state.

Mosques and Churches

In-charges and managements of Mosques and Gurudwaras in the city said preparations are underway to ensure all safety measures are in place as they throw open their doors for the devotees amid the pandemic.

Mosque sources said that stickers and posters will be affixed on the floor and verandas of Mosques to ensure social distancing during Namaz. The authorities of some Mosques have decided to discontinue using carpet on which people offer Namaz at the Mosques and ask people to carry their own 'Jainamaz' (mat for offering Namaz).

Former Corporator and member of Karnataka State Haj Committee Suhail Baig told 'Star of Mysore' that devotees will also be advised to wear masks and carry sanitisers, and strictly adhere to social distancing norms to keep themselves and others safe from Coronavirus.

"While the inner parts of the Mosques will be closed for devotees, they have to offer prayers in the outer space where there is granite flooring and where markings are made. We have decided not to read Holy Quran at Mosques amidst crowds and have urged the people to read the Holy Book at their homes," he added.

Following elaborate steps to be taken to keep people safe from the infection, Churches too have issued guidelines that include wearing of face masks and maintaining social distancing while praying inside the Churches. Only two persons will be allowed in one bench inside the Church.

Unlike other religions, Christianity has the concept of community service, so rules will be followed regarding social distancing and the number of persons permitted to visit Churches at a time. Churches will act according to the Government guidelines about precautions to check Coronavirus infection, city Church authorities said.

Raghulal donates sanitisers to Hill temple

As Sri Chamundeshwari temple atop the Hill opens tomorrow, masks, sanitisers and reusable face shields were donated to the temple authorities by city's noted Pharmacist N. Raghavan of Raghulal & Co., today. Muzrai Tahsildar Yathiraj Sampath Kumaran, Chief Priest Shashishekar Dikshit and others are seen.

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The State Level Environmental Impact Assesment Authority, Karnataka (Costituted by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India) have accorded Environmental Clearnce for establishment of micro distillery (Jaggery Spirit) to M/S Huli Spirits Pvt Ltd., at plot no 89, Adakanalli Industrial Area, Adakanalli village, Nanjangud taluk, Mysore District, Karnataka. Vide no SEIAA 08 IND 2019, Dated : 27.05.2020. The said copy of Environmental Clearance is available with Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and may be seen on the website of SEIAA, Karnataka at http://www.seiaa.kar.nic.in

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